

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. In a cinematographic system for creation of a film and/or video productions wherein the action figures are puppets controlled by rods, which are manipulated by puppeteers on a virtual production set, the improvement comprising:

5 A. A virtual production set, including a key-colored background screen, a stage, and at least one action puppet character manipulated by puppeteers on said virtual production set;

B. At least two (2) cameras, each of said cameras being positioned relative an action puppet character to record an action image of said puppet character on said virtual production set from a different camera angle,

10 C. Means for compositing of each of said images from each of said cameras with a virtual image or a digitally created back plate, and

D. Means for compositing of each of said composited images in a multiple composite image.

15 *Sub C1* 2. The improved system of Claim 1, wherein said system comprises two cameras, wherein one of said cameras records an action image of said puppet character from a master camera angle, relative to said virtual studio set, and the other of said cameras records an action image of said puppet character from a different camera angle, relative to said virtual studio set.

20 3. The improved system of Claim 2, wherein each of said composite images of each of said puppet action characters is integrated within the same image frame so as to provide complimentary action images of each of said puppet characters relative to one another.

4. The improved system of Claim 3, wherein said composite images are integrated by separate compositing modules, so that each composited image appears within an allocated portion of a given image frame, and each allocated portion of said the image frame is adjusted relative to one another to create depth and/or perspective of one composited image relative to the other.

5. The improved system of Claim 4, wherein each allocated portion of said the image frame is adjusted relative to one another to create interaction and/or complimentary action of one puppet character from one composited image with another puppet character from another composited image with a given image frame.

6. In a method for the production of an action cinematographic composition wherein the action figures are puppets controlled by rods which are manipulated by puppeteers on a virtual production set, the improvement comprising:

A. Providing

(1) virtual production set, including a key-colored background screen, a stage, and at least one action puppet character manipulated by puppeteers on said virtual production set;

(2) At least two (2) cameras, each of said cameras being positioned relative an action puppet character to record an action image of said puppet character on said virtual production set from a different camera angle,

B. Recording an action image or image sequence of a puppet character with each of said cameras;

C. Compositing each image recorded with a virtual or a digitally created image; and

5 D. Compositing each of said composited images with one another in a multiple composite image.

7. The improved method of Claim 6, wherein said recording Step B comprised comprising recording an action image of said puppet character, on two different cameras, at the
10 same time.

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A,
8. The improved method of Claim 6, wherein said recording Step B comprises recording an action image of a first puppet character, on a one camera, from a master camera angle, relative to said virtual studio set, and recording another action of another puppet character
15 image, on another camera, from a different camera angle, relative to said virtual studio set.

9. The improved method of Claim 6, wherein said compositing Step D comprises integrating each of said composite images of each of said puppet action characters within the same image frame so as to provide interactive action images of each of said puppet characters
20 relative to one another.

10. The improved method of Claim 6, wherein said compositing Step D comprises integrating each of said composite images from a separate compositing module, so that each composited image appears within an allocated portion of a given image frame, and each allocated portion of said the image frame is adjusted relative to one another to adjust the depth and/or perspective of one composited image relative to the other.

11. The improved method of Claim 10, comprising allocating of a portion of said the image frame relative to one another portion of said image frame so as to create interaction and/or complimentary action of one puppet character from one composited image with another puppet character from another composited image with a given image frame.

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